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AUTHORITY

AGO D/A ltr, 29 Apr 1980

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

IN REPLY REFER TO

AGAM-P (M) (29 Sep 67) FOR OT RD-670326

5 October 1967

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters,
8th Field Hospital

TO: SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. Subject report is forwarded for review and evaluation by USACDC in accordance with paragraph 6f, AR 1-19 and by USCOMARC in accordance with paragraph 6c and d, AR 1-19. Evaluations and corrective actions should be reported to ACSFOR OI within 90 days of receipt of covering letter.

2. Information contained in this report is provided to appropriate benefits in the future from Lessons Learned during current operations, and may be adapted for use in developing training material.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

Kenneth G. Wickham

KENNETH G. WICKHAM
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

1 Incl
as

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STATEMENT #3 UNCLASSIFIED

FOR OT RD
670326

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Wash, D. C. 20310

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Headquarters, 8th Field Hospital
AFO San Francisco 96240

AVCA-MB-GA-FH

13 June 1967

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1967
CSFOR-65 (CORRECTED COPY) Supersedes ORIL dated 2 May 1967


THRU: Commanding Officer
43d Medical Group
AFO 96240

THRU: Commanding Officer
44th Medical Brigade
AFO 96307

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development
Department of the Army
Washington, D.C. 20310

The OPERATIONAL REPORT-LESSONS LEARNED of this headquarters for the quarterly period ending 30 April 1967 is forwarded in accordance with Army Regulation 1-19 and IC Regulation 870-3.

1 Encl
as


CHARLES H. BOYD
MAJ, MC
Commanding

FOR OT RD File
670326

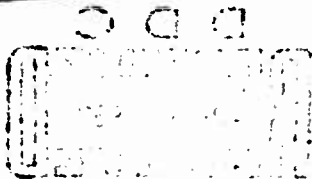
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Deputy Chiefs of Staff
Chief of Research and Development
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Chief of Engineers
The Surgeon General
The Provost Marshal General
CO, Hq, 8th Field Hospital

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1954-1955

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SECTION I

SIGNIFICANT ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

13 June 1967

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period
Ending 30 April 1967 (RCS CSROP - 65)

A. During the reporting period this unit continued to operate a semi-permanent installation rendering definitive care for patients requiring less than 30 days hospitalization and rendering initial care and evacuation of patients who require longer periods of hospitalization.

B. The 435th Medical Detachment (Ka) was transferred from the 8th Field Hospital to the 55th Medical Group.

C. The 551st Medical Detachment (Kh) was transferred from Ft. Sam Houston to the 8th Field Hospital.

D. No operations which this organization supported has been declassified for inclusion in this report.

E. This organization did not engage in any tactical training other than practice alerts.

F. The central air conditioner on Ward I, the trickle filter of the sewer plant, the new water plant, the addition to the hospital chapel, and three new sentry posts overlooking the perimeter fence have been completed.

G. Construction has begun on:

1. Two tropical billets.
2. Alteration of the operating rooms.

H. Planned construction includes:

TYPE CONSTRUCTION

Asphalting of roadways
35' x 100' laundry building
Kitchen for CIDG Guard

DATE JOB SUBMITTED

9 November 1966
9 November 1966
22 November 1966

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly period ending 30 April 1967
CSFOR-65

TYPE CONSTRUCTION

Additional Perimeter Lights
Extension of NCO-EM Club
Extension of American Red Cross Center

DATE JOB SUBMITTED:

10 February 1967
29 March 1967
31 March 1967

I. Summarized Statistics:

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>AVG BEDS OCCUPIED</u>	<u>AVG BEDS OCCUPIED BY POW</u>	<u>AVG DAILY ADMISSIONS</u>	<u>AVG PATIENT STAY</u>	<u>AVG VC STAY</u>
Feb	254	18.5	30.2	11.3	67.5
Mar	226	18.7	27.1	9.4	82.4
Apr	250	16.3	31.5	9.0	36.8

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>AIR EVACS</u>	<u>TOTAL SURGICAL CASES</u>	<u>MAJOR SURGICAL CASES</u>	<u>TOTAL CASTS</u>
Feb	281	282	106	194
Mar	372	273	130	240
Apr	229	204	68	111

Total Mental Procedures 2,730
Total Facial Injuries 19

AVCA-HE-CA-FH

13 June 1967

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period ending 30 April 1967
CSFOR-65

A. Utilization of air splint in the combat zones

DISCUSSION: Orthopedic Surgeons at the 8th Field Hospital have noted that many combat casualties arriving here are inadequately splinted. Instead of air splints, Field Medics are either using the wire ladder and board splint or none at all. Wire and ladder splints are bulky and do not adequately immobilize the joints above and below the bone fractured. The air splints are easy to apply with minimum manipulation of the extremity, are designed to properly immobilize any extremity fracture other than femoral, and are light and compact and could be easily carried in adequate numbers to meet the demands of a mass casualty situation. The ease of application would encourage the medics to use the splints on suspected fractures which are often not splinted. The immobilizing and cushioning effect of the air splint would add to the patient's comfort. Supply could be simplified by using the long leg splint for all fractures of the lower extremities.

OBSERVATION: Because of the lack of supply or lack of training, the medically superior air splints are not being used on patients arriving at the 8th Field Hospital.

B. Prisoner of War Patients

DISCUSSION: The 8th Field Hospital treats POW patients until only minimum follow-up attention is required. Unlike U.S. patients, who are further evacuated for long term convalescence, some POW's remain at this hospital longer than 3 months. Except that many are in casts, POW patients present the same administrative problems as other POW's. The average hospital is not constructed or organized to carry out the normal activities of a POW camp, however this hospital has experienced no attempted escapes. Installation of bars to separate POW's from other patients is not a satisfactory solution because POW's must leave the ward for certain purposes such as going to the latrine.

OBSERVATION: A centralized POW medical holding camp, any specifically organized and constructed for holding POW's after initial treatment would free beds at this and other hospitals. A centralized facility would make it easier for specialized personnel to exploit the favorable effect of good treatment being offered POW's.

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R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S

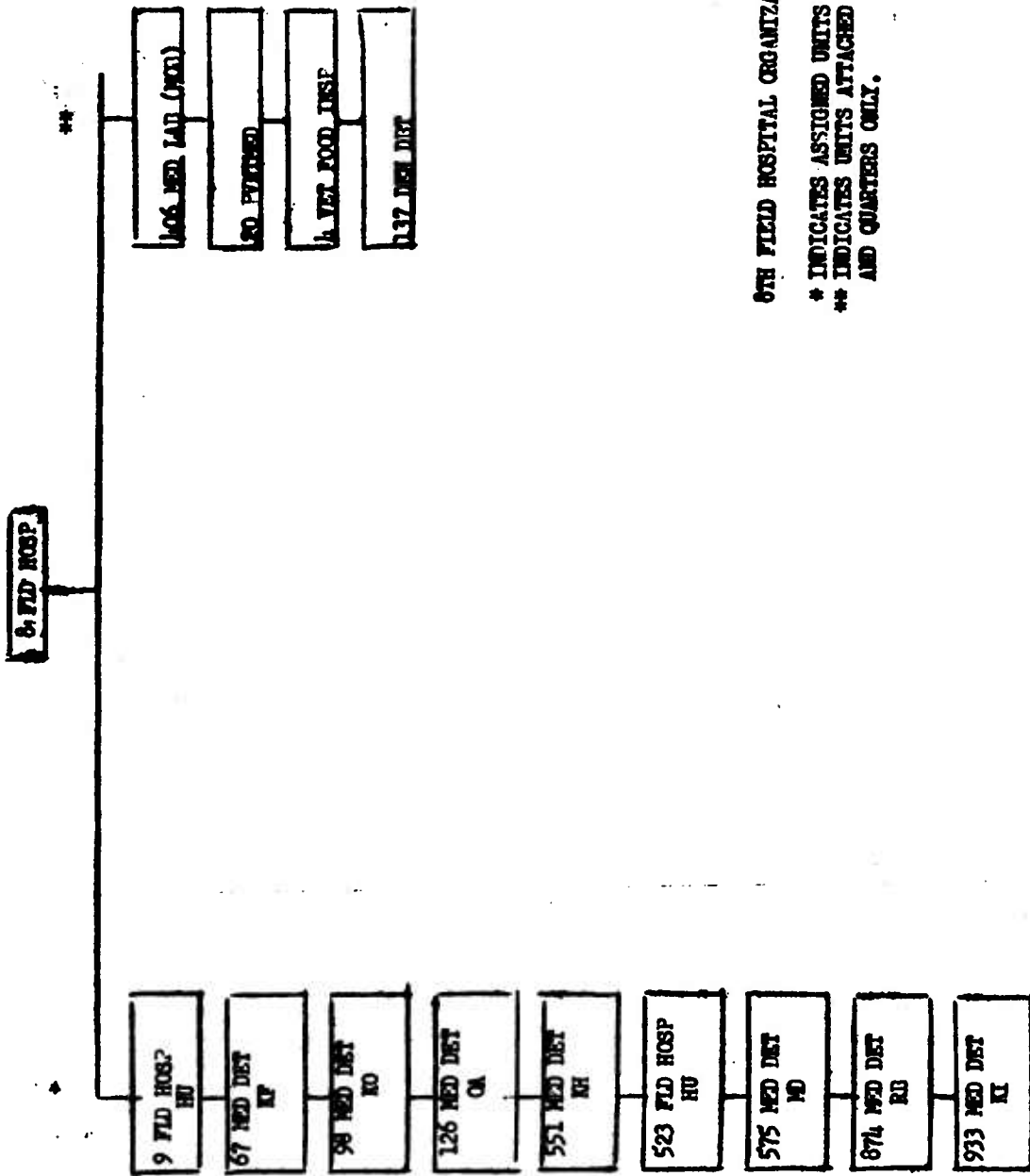
AVCA-MB-GA-FH

13 June 1967

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period ending 30 April 1967

A. Air Splints: Field Medics should better utilize air splints.

B. Prisoner of War Patients: A single medical holding facility augmented with Vietnamese speaking guards and PSYWAR personnel should be established for holding POW patients who are not yet medically ready to be turned over to ARVN authorities. POW's should be evacuated to such a facility as soon as their medical conditions permit.



6TH FIELD HOSPITAL ORGANIZATION CHART

* INDICATES ASSIGNED UNITS

** INDICATES UNITS ATTACHED FOR RATION AND QUARTERS ONLY.

AVCA-MB-GA-QI (13 Jun 67) 1st Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April
1967 (RCS CSFOR-65) (Corrected Copy) Supercedes ORLI
dated 2 May 1967.

Headquarters, 43d Medical Group, APO 96240 19 June 1967

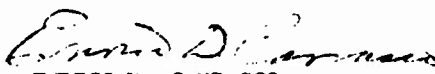
TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Depart-
ment of the Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

1. Forwarded is the Operational Report - Lessons Learned for
Period Ending 30 April 1967 in corrected format from the 8th Field
Hospital, APO 96240.

2. The following comments are made concerning Observations and
Recommendations in Section II, Part 2.

a. The use of the air splint is not commonly practiced
in Viet Nam. The recommendation is considered valid and should
be forwarded to the Medical Field Service School for consideration
in its training program.

b. Prisoners Of War in this zone are transferred through
Provost Marshall Channels to the ARVN POW Compound, Pleiku.
Because of the limited medical care available at Pleiku, it is
necessary that wounded POW's be retained in Army Hospitals until
only minimal medical care is required. As reflected in statistics
shown in para 1, Section I, often POW's occupy beds for periods in
excess of 60 days. Certain individual cases have been held for 4-5
months. It is the understanding of this headquarters that the 44th
Medical Brigade intends to devote portions of a Medical Company (CIR)
to the care of POW's in the near future. This action would free 25
beds at the 8th Field Hospital and 5 beds at the 91st Evacuation
Hospital.


ENRICO D. CARRASCO
COL, MC
Commanding

AVCA-MB-PO (13 Jun 67)

2nd Ind

SUBJECT: Operation Report - Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period
Ending 30 April 1967 (RCS CSFOR-65)

HEADQUARTERS, 44TH MEDICAL BRIGADE, APO 96307

8 July 1967

TO: Commanding General, 1st Logistical Command, ATTN: AVCA-GO-O
APO 96307

1. The contents of basic document and 1st Indorsement thereto have been reviewed.

2. This report is forwarded with comments pertaining to Section II, Part II.

a. Medical material (air splints).

(1) Concur. Stocks of the following items are available at the 32d Medical Depot:

6515-903-8169 Splint arm, pneumatic, adult

6515-904-0116 Splint, leg, wrap around, pneumatic, adult

(2) Recommend that the USARV Surgeon publish a technical letter to divisional medical personnel concerning availability and utilization of air splints.

3. Medical Care and Treatment (PW): Concur. Future plans include the utilization of a complete clearing company for hospitalization of PW patients.

TEL: Lynx 382

1 Incl
nc



F. W. TIMMERMAN
COL, MC
Commanding

AVCA GO-O (17 June 1967) 3d Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1967
(RCS CSFOR 65)

HEADQUARTERS, 1ST LOGISTICAL COMMAND, APO 96307

12 JUL 1967

TO: Deputy Commanding General, US Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHGC-DH, APO 96307

1. The Operational Report-Lessons Learned submitted by the 8th Field Hospital for the quarterly period ending 30 April 1967 is forwarded.

2. The 8th Field Hospital engaged in combat service support for 89 days during the reporting period.

3. Concur with basic report as modified by indorsements. The report is considered adequate.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

TEL: Lynx 782/430

1 Incl
nc


J. C. TRENCHER, III
Captain, AGC
Asst Adjutant General

AVHGC-DST (13 Jun 67) 4th Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the Period Ending
30 April 1967 (RCS CSFOR-65) (U)

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375 4 AUG 1967

TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GPOF-OT,
APO 96558

1. This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the period ending 30 April 1967 from Headquarters, 8th Field Hospital as indorsed.

2. Pertinent comments follow:

a. Reference item concerning use of air splints, Section II, part I, paragraph a; paragraph 2a, 1st Indorsement and paragraph 2a, 2d Indorsement: Nonconcur. The initial supply of air splints were to be used for testing the item. Unfortunately evaluation reports were not returned in sufficient numbers or with sufficient information upon which to base a valid conclusion. While most reports were favorable, some problems with the air splints were encountered. A plan for a controlled retesting is under consideration. In the meantime, standard methods of splinting which have stood the test of several wars are still acceptable. The supply of these splints is adequate.

b. Reference item concerning prisoner of war patients, paragraph B, Section II, part I; paragraph B, Section II, part II; paragraph 2a, 1st Indorsement and paragraph 3, 2d Indorsement.

(1) Concur.

(2) Establishment of a PW hospital facility would free a significant number of beds for use by other category patients requiring intensive medical treatment. Additionally, a centralized PW hospital facility would provide for more effective control of PW hospital patients requiring minimum treatment and would allow for more economical and efficient utilization of military police guards.

(3) The PMO, USARV, has coordinated with representatives of the 44th Medical Brigade and the USARV Surgeon's Office relative to the site layout plan and physical security requirements for a proposed PW hospital facility to be constructed at Phu Thanh, Vietnam.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



STANLEY R. SCHULTS
Major, AGC
Asst Adjutant General

1 Incl
nc

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GPOP-DT(13 Jun 67)

5th Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report for the Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1967
from HQ, 8th Fld Hosp (RCS CSFOR-65)

HQ, US ARMY, PACIFIC, APO San Francisco 96558 1 3 SEP 1967

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the
Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

This headquarters has reviewed subject report and concurs in the
report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:



E. SNYDER

CPT, AGO

Asst AG

1 Incl
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